

[22nd December 1922]

Communal representation in the South Arcot taluk board.

664 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: With reference to the answer, given to clauses (4), (5) and (6) of my question No. 260 on the 15th September last regarding communal representation in the taluk boards of South Arcot, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table the information called for?

A.—The information is laid on the table.*

Nominations to the taluk boards of South Arcot.

665 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: With reference to the answer given to my question No. 449 on the 13th November last regarding nominations to the taluk boards of South Arcot, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table the information called for?

A.—The President's letter is laid on the table.†

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"In the letter of the President, District Board, South Arcot, laid on the table, the President says that persons defeated at the polls are not disqualified. I should like to know whether it is usual to nominate persons defeated at the polls."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I cannot say that it is usual to nominate defeated candidates; but it is done sometimes."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"With reference to the same question, I should like to know from the hon. the Minister whether there were not other persons in the respective local areas who might have been nominated in the best interests of the administration."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"That is a matter for the President of the District Board concerned."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"When representatives of a community had been returned in a sufficiently large number, I wish to know whether it was desirable to nominate more persons from the same community. Clause 3 of my original question which is answered here related to the fact that Mr. Venugopal Nayudu was nominated notwithstanding the fact that already four members of his community had been returned, and also to the fact that one Reddi gentleman was nominated when six Reddi gentlemen had been already returned."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"The nomination of members to Taluk Boards is left to the discretion of the President of the District Board, and he is expected to exercise his discretion suitably. So my hon. friend will do well to put his interpellation in the District Board."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"I should like to know from the hon. the Minister whether these nominations satisfy the provisions contained in section 9 of the Madras Local Boards Act which deals with the representation of Muhammadans, minorities and backward classes."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"It is a matter of opinion, Sir. I do not think the hon. Member is entitled to ask questions about matters of opinion."

* Vide Appendix A on page 1172 infra.

† Vide Appendix B on page 1172 infra.